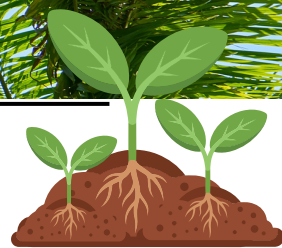


The Weekly Update
July 17, 2026

SUMMER SERIES SUNDAY!

July 19: Grow Together



Faith flourishes when we grow side by side. Gather for a comforting meal and reflect on the Fruit of the Spirit as we continue growing together in Christ. We will be packing backpacks for kids in our area.

Cross & Crown has a long history of supporting the ministry of Changed Choices. Over the years, our congregation has assembled Welcome Home baskets, provided Christmas gifts through Adopt-a-Family, sent Christmas and Mother's Day cards, and prepared meals for their Bible study. Your generosity has been a wonderful blessing to the women they serve.

This Sunday, we have a special opportunity to learn even more about this incredible ministry. As part of our Summer Series, we'll welcome Diane Hunt, Executive Director of Changed Choices, who will share how the organization helps women rebuild their lives after incarceration. Diane will also be joined by one of the women whose life has been impacted by the ministry, offering a firsthand perspective of hope, healing, and new beginnings.

We hope you'll join us for this inspiring and meaningful presentation. You won't want to miss it!

Celebration of Life Planning Party: **August 2**



Join us for a special afternoon of planning, fellowship, and peace of mind. Whether you're creating your Celebration of Life plans for the first time, or simply want to review and refresh the choices you made last year, this event is for you.

Representatives from local funeral homes will be available to answer questions and provide guidance through the planning process, making it easy to explore your options and complete important details. Larry will also be on hand to play a selection of beloved hymns, helping inspire your music selections for your service.

Give yourself—and your loved ones—the gift of having your wishes in place, all while surrounded by your church family. Everyone is welcome! RSVP using the link below!

A Practical Way to Help Our Members in Need

One of the things that makes Cross & Crown so special is the way we care for one another. Right now, we have a number of individuals and families within our congregation who could use a little extra support.

Many of these needs are not widely known, as people often face difficult circumstances quietly. Through conversations with Pastor Melody and our Congregational Care Team, we are aware of situations where a little extra help can make a meaningful difference.

Rather than focusing on one specific family or circumstance, we are asking our church family to help us build a supply of gift cards that can be shared as needs arise. Gift cards for grocery stores, restaurants, gas stations, Uber, Walmart, Target, pharmacies, or other retailers allow us to respond quickly and thoughtfully to a variety of situations.

During the school year, when we gather for Wednesday Night Happenings, our church family often prepares and delivers meals to members who are recovering from illness, grieving, welcoming a new baby, or simply going through a difficult season in life. During the summer months, however, those meals are not as readily available. A restaurant or grocery gift card allows us to continue extending that same care and support, even when Wednesday Night Happenings is on break.

Whether it's helping someone put food on the table, fill up a gas tank for work or medical appointments, or purchase everyday necessities, even a small gift card can be a tangible reminder that they are seen, loved, and supported by their church family.

You may remember receiving scam emails in the past that falsely claimed to be from Pastor Melody asking for gift cards. Those messages were fraudulent, and we appreciate everyone who helped spread the word. **This request is different—it's really from Pastor Melody and our Congregational Care Team.**

If you would like to help, you may drop off gift cards at the church office or place them in the offering plate in a sealed envelope marked "**Member Care Gift Cards.**"

Thank you for helping us live out Christ's call to love one another. Your generosity allows us to care for members of our Cross & Crown family with dignity, compassion, and discretion whenever the need arises.



WE ARE ALMOST THERE!

Our youth mission trip to The Dwelling is almost here! From July 26–31, our youth will spend the week at Spark'Dwell, serving, learning, and experiencing this incredible ministry firsthand.

Our youth are still a little short of their fundraising goal.

Unfortunately, water restrictions meant we weren't able to hold our annual car wash fundraiser, so we could use a little extra help getting them across the finish line! If you would like to support our youth and their mission trip, donations can be made using the link below. Every gift—big or small—helps! Thank you for supporting our youth as they prepare to serve, grow, and make a difference!

Did you miss the beginner Mahjong classes we held in the Spring?

Don't despair, we will be holding a class on Wednesday, August 12th from 9:30 - 11:30 am. If you have friends outside of church, who are interested in learning, they are welcome. Please rsvp to Carole Stojetz at cestojetz@carolina.rr.com. We hold regular play on Wednesday afternoons from 1- 3 pm. Note we will not be playing on July 29th due to the yard sale.



YARD SALE HELP:

Our annual Yard Sale is just around the corner, and we'd love your help! Whether you can give an hour or spend the day with us, every helping hand makes a difference.

Friday, July 24 | 4:00 p.m.

We'll be setting up tables and chairs and unloading the POD. We'll especially need a few strong volunteers to help with the heavier lifting, but there are jobs for everyone. The more people we have, the quicker the work goes! (We will not be unpacking boxes on Friday.)

Saturday, July 25 | Beginning at 8:30 a.m.

FURNITURE AND LARGE ITEMS MAY BE DROPPED OFF AT THIS TIME!

It's time to unpack boxes, price items, and organize everything for the sale. There are plenty of ways to help, and no special experience is needed. The more we accomplish over the weekend, the less work we'll have during the week leading up to the sale.

Saturday, August 1 | Yard Sale Day

The doors open at 7:00 a.m., and we'll need volunteers throughout the day to greet shoppers, assist with sales, and keep things running smoothly. We'll especially appreciate extra hands around 1:00 p.m. to help take down tables, return chairs to the Fellowship Hall, and wrap things up. A few volunteers will be needed for the heavier lifting.

Thank you for helping make this event a success! Your time and willingness to serve help support the ministries of our church, and we truly couldn't do it without you.

PRAYER list...

MEMBERS:

JEANETTE ABBOTT
JENNY BOOTH
JIM BURNS
BECKY CARTER
DENNIS DOWNEY
LINDA FARIES

HAROLD HEIDEGGER
KATHI & FRANK MACARINE
SUE PAPACHARALAMBOUS
GREG & KELLY RICHARDSON
JOE & CRISS UCMAN
JD WINFREY

FAMILY & FRIENDS:

Kenneth Ackerman, Larry Pool's brother-in-law
Kristi Alary, Julie Moffat's sister
Sidney Ames, Susan Arcuri's sister
Scott Anderson, friend of the Ucmans
John Bailey, Russ Bailey's father
Andrew Bernauer, son of Wayne & Rosemary Bernauer
Larry Black, Roger Black's brother
Jim Carty, Suzy Wleznia's brother
Joann Church, Behzad Vaqar's mother
Drude Corbet, Angelina Corbet's brother
Rick, Debbie & Jason Eldridge, friends of Vivian Farland
Reid Evans, friend of Barbara Maillet
Brad Faries, Barry & Linda Faries' son
Owen Farr, Julie Wright's grandson
Dorothy Henke, Lisa Roth's mother
Jim Kozlinski, Cathy Kozlinski's husband
Mark & Ellen Kramm, friends of Jill Jurgensen
Helen Laatz, sister-in-law of Leslie Laatz
Randy LaMere, Jennifer LaMere's father
John Lawler, Cathy Rudolph's father
Madsen family, friends of Joe & Criss Ucmans
Marylou, friend of Annette Downey
Jeanne Maylor, Denise Bratschie's friend
Ted Meiss, Christine Meiss' husband
Karen Mulford, Christine Meiss' sister
Alice Louise (Lou) Miller, Criss Ucmans' cousin
Kimberly Bell O'Day, friend of Claudia Eybl
Fred Olafson, friend of the congregation
Brian Orton
Nga Pace, Yen Forsblom's sister
Jonathan Pierce, Debra Cox's brother
Olivia Reardon, daughter of Barry & Linda Faries' friends
Michel Roberge, Jason Roberge's father
Ray Sipe, friend of Joe & Criss Ucmans
Sameer Saproo, Teri Strom's nephew-in-law
Nancy Scholhammer, friend of Susan Arcuri
Mindy Sopher, friend of David & Debra Cox
Joanne Varnum, friend of Joe & Criss Ucmans
Haley White, Barbara Maillet's granddaughter
Lucas White, Barbara Maillet's grandson

Happy Birthday

Lisa DeJuneas
Sharon Davis
Frank Macarine
Darragh Bailey

JULY 10
JULY 14
JULY 17
JULY 17

If we have missed your birthday, PLEASE email LeAnne
@ office@crossandcrown.org so we can add your
birthday to our list.

On July 24–25, I will be participating in the 24 Hours of Booty,
a 24-hour cycling, running, and walking event around the
Booty Loop in Myers Park to raise funds for the 24 Foundation.

The Foundation supports cancer research and provides vital
programs that help individuals and families facing cancer with
financial assistance, emotional support, and more.

I'd be grateful for your support. If you're able, please consider
making a donation. And if you're nearby, stop by and cheer on
the participants—it would mean a lot!

Thank you for helping make a difference!

~Michael Wellborn

Check out Michael Wellborn's fundraising page for 24
Foundation -

<https://events.24foundation.org/fundraiser/7300307>

Coming up this week...

Monday, July 13: 12:30 pm- Lunch Bunch

Tuesday, July 14: 9:30 am- Squares of Love
12 pm- Staff Meeting
6:30 pm- Table Talk

Wednesday, July 15: 1 pm- Mahjong
6:30 pm- Executive Comm. Mtg.

We are still collecting donations!



**Yard
Sale**
August 1

Items we want:

- Household Items
 - Toys & Books
 - Decor
 - Tools
 - Electronics, etc.
- (No clothing, please)

Items should be in boxes
that close and placed in
the POD. The POD key
is located on the
Welcome Table in the
Narthex.